(ii) New trades are added and the trades no longer relevant to the industrial needs are deleted from time to time.

(iii) Course curriculum for various trades are periodically revised to meet the changing skills requirement of the industry.

(iv) Existing infrastructure of ITIs/ITCs are being reoirented to meet the changing techonological development in the market.

(v) Upgradation of some of the ITIs into Centre of Excellence to produce world class craftsmen.

Good health and education for child labour

3279. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that thousands of children, both male and female, are working as domestic help, boys in tea stalls and road side food joints;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these children do not get food, rest and even decent wages; and

(c) in what manner Government propose to ensure good health and education for these children?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) to (c) Government is aware of the fact that children are working as domestic help, etc. The Government is implementing the National Child Labour Projects Scheme in 250 districts of the country during the 10th Plan for the rehabilitation of working children in these districts. Under the Scheme children are withdrawn from work and put into special schools where they are provided with formal/non-formal education, vocational training, stipend, nutrition and health care facilities before they are mainstreamed to the regular education system.

Objections raised by Centre of Indian Trade Union

3280. SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether EPFO had appointed M/s Mercer Human Resources Consulting as consultant to suggest investment of option of EDF funds;

(b) whether the Centre of Indian Trade Unions had drawn the attention of the Ministry during March, 2005 to the antecedents of the said consultant firm;

(c) if so, the details of objections raised by the CITU and whether the EPFO agreed to verify such antecedents;

(d) whether the same were verified;

(e) if so, the result of such verified; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRA SEKHAR RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The following issues were raised:

(i) Alleged involvement in providing inaccurate information to New York Stock Exchange in the matter of Compensation Package to its Chairman; and

(ii) Allegation of wrong doing against Marsh Inc. (sister concern).

(d) and (e) The matter was referred to the Consultant M/s. Mercer Human Resource Consulting for their comments and it was clarified by them that their role was restricted to advice on actuarial and pension related matters and did not involve rendering of advice or services concering the Compensation Committee's annual decisions regarding compensation of New York Stock Exchange employees, including the Chairman.

It was also clarified that M/s Mercer is an independent company, run entirely by its own management and responsible to its own Board of Directors. The events surrounding Marsh Inc. have no bearing on Mercer's operation and do not affect its financial or professional capability to service its clients effectively in any part of the world.

(f) Does not arise in view of (d) & (e) above.

Assistance for Tsunami Warning System

3281. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the present status of the setting up of Tsunami Warning System;

(b) whether the Government have taken the assistance of World Bank or Asian Development Bank for this purpose;